

## PRESS NOTICE

## BILL NETTLES UNITED STATES ATTORNEY DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

1441 Main Street, Suite 500 \* Columbia, SC 29201 \* (803) 929-3000

## **February 9, 2012**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT PERSON: BETH DRAKE

First Assistant U.S. Attorney

Beth.Drake@usdoj.gov

(803) 929-3000

## **CONWAY COUNTERFEITERS SENTENCED**

Columbia, South Carolina---- United States Attorney Bill Nettles stated today that Parish Gagum, age 23, and Dashawn Jamel Ford, age 22, both of Conway, South Carolina, were sentenced yesterday in federal court in Florence, South Carolina, for passing counterfeit Federal Reserve Notes, a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 472. United States District Judge R. Bryan Harwell of Florence sentenced Gagum to 14 months imprisonment and two years supervised release. Ford was sentenced to 4 3/4 months imprisonment and two years supervised release. Both were ordered to pay restitution.

Evidence presented at the change of plea hearing established that between March 2009 and May 2010, Gagum manufactured counterfeit \$10.00 and \$100.00 bills using a computer. Gagum and Ford passed some of the counterfeit bills at businesses in Conway, SC, in April 2010.

The case was investigated by agents of the United States Secret Service. Assistant United States Attorney William E. Day, II, of the Florence office handled the case.